

# **Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format for Actions Other Than Hazardous Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Actions**

## **Project Name**

**NEPA Number** DOI- BLM-AZ-C010-2012-0018-CX

### **A. Background**

BLM Office: Kingman Field Office  
30115, AZA 30116

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: AZA 22683, AZA

Proposed Action Title/Type: Assignment of communications use leases.

Location of Proposed Action:

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona

AZA 22683 T. 20 N., R. 15 W.,  
sec.30, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

AZA 30115 T. 27 N., R. 21 W.,  
sec. 2, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
sec. 3, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;  
sec. 4, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
sec. 8, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
sec. 9, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;  
sec. 16, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;  
sec. 17, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

AZA 30116 T. 29 N., R. 17 W.,  
sec. 34, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

Description of Proposed Action: Assignment of Communications Use Leases AZA 22683 (Hayden Peak), AZA 30115 (Willow Beach), and AZA 30116 (Patterson Slope) from Jim Vine to GTP Structures I, LLC (GTP). In addition to the terms and conditions of the communications use leases, GTP has agreed to be bound by and comply with the additional term and condition for lease AZA 30116 that microwave dishes and covers must be gray. This is already included as a term and condition of leases AZA 22683 and AZA 30115. No additional rights would be conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications use leases.

### **B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plan Name: *Kingman Resource Management Plan/EIS*

Date Approved/Amended: March 1995

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): N/A

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): LR14/B3 Commercial mountaintop development for communication sites are restricted to the eleven described on page 67 [of the Kingman RMP/FEIS]. Hayden Peak, Willow Beach, and Patterson Slope, on which the leased facilities are located, are designated as communications sites in the Kingman RMP/FEIS.

### **C. Compliance with NEPA**

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E. 9. Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed (See Attachment 1), and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

I considered that these are existing facilities and no changes in the facilities and improvements nor their operation would occur as a result of the assignment of these. These have not resulted in significant impacts nor is it anticipated that they would.

### **D. Signature**

Authorizing Official:  / s / Don McClure for  Date:  8/14/2012   
(Signature)

Name: Ruben A. Sánchez  
Title: Field Manager

### **Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Andy Whitefield, 2755 Mission Blvd., Kingman, AZ 86401, (928) 718-3746, andy\_whitefield@blm.gov.

**Note:** A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX. See Attachment 2.

| Attachment 1: Extraordinary Circumstances  | Comment (Yes or No with supporting Rationale)   |
|--|---|
| 1. Have significant effects on public health or safety.  | No. The operation of the facilities authorized under the communications use leases must be in conformance with FCC guidelines, which require for the safe operation of the facilities and equipment.  |
| 2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988) national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. | No. No such resources are known to exist in the affected area nor is it anticipated these would be affected.  |
| 3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].  | No. The assignment of these leases would not be controversial nor would it involve conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.  |
| 4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.   | No. The facility authorized under AZA 22683 has been in operation since 1988, and the facilities authorized under AZA 30115 and AZA 30116 have been in operation since 1997 and there have been no highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects from these nor have there been unique or unknown environmental risks. It would be anticipated this would remain the same. |
| 5. Establishes a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about future actions with significant environmental effects.  | No. The assignment of these leases would not establish any precedents. Any substantial deviations of the facilities and improvements and their operations would require further analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.  |
| 6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.   | No. No direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects are anticipated as a result of the assignment of these leases.   |
| 7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.   | No. No listed properties or properties eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places are known in the affected area nor is it anticipated any such properties would be affected.   |
| 8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.  | No. Although a portion of the access road to the Hayden Peak facility is within habitat of the Hualapai Mexican Vole, a Federally listed endangered species, the right-of-way for that road has terms and conditions which have successfully mitigated potential impacts from the use of the road and it is anticipated this would continue.  |
| 9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.   | No. No laws or requirements for the protection of the environment would be violated as a result of the assignment of these leases.  |
| 10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).   | No. No distinct populations have been affected differently from these facilities nor is it anticipated any would be affected by the assignment of these leases.   |
| 11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).  | No. No sacred sites are known to exist in the affected area nor is it anticipated the assignment of these leases limit access to any such site or otherwise affect the physical integrity of any sacred sites.  |
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| <p>12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).</p> | <p>No. The assignment of these communications use leases would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.</p> |
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## Approval and Decision

### Attachment 2

**Compliance and assignment of responsibility: Lands and Realty**

**Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: Lands and Realty**

**Review:** *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

**Prepared by:**           / s / Andy Whitefield           **Date:** 8/14/2012

Andy Whitefield  
Environmental Protection  
Specialist

**Reviewed by:**           / s / Ramone B. McCoy           **Date:** 8/14/2012

Ramone McCoy  
NEPA Coordinator

**Reviewed by:**           / s / Don McClure           **Date:** 8/14/2012

for Ruben A. Sánchez  
Field Manager  
Supervisor

**Project Description:** Assignment of communications use leases AZA 22683 (Hayden Peak), AZA 30115 (Willow Beach), and AZA 30116 (Patterson Slope) from Jim Vine to GTP Infrastructure I, LLC (GTP).

**Decision:** Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the existing terms and conditions contained in Communications Use Leases AZA 22683, AZA 30115, and, in addition to the existing terms and conditions for Lease AZA 30116, an additional one regarding microwave dishes and covers must be gray is a condition of this assignment and has been agreed to by the assignee (see Exhibits).

**Approved By:**           / s / Ruben A. Sánchez           **Date:** 8/14/2012

**Ruben A. Sánchez**  
**Field Manager, Kingman Field Office**

**Exhibits:** Communications Use Leases AZA 22683, AZA 30115, AZA 30116.

Assignment of Communications Use Leases AZA 22683, AZA 30115, AZA 30116 CX-AZ310-2012-0018